To whom it may concern,

I am a flight attendant and have worked for two airlines over the last ten years. Please stop the use of cell phones onboard the aircraft. I really believe that everyone using their cell phones onboard would lead to fights and disaster. I have seen passengers get into fist fights because one passenger puts his seat back and the passenger behind him wants to read his newspaper. Can you imagine what would happen when three hundred people are gabbing away? Many passengers try to sleep. What will their response be when the person next them is loudly talking on his or her cell phone? How many incidents of air rage does it take for lawmakers to realize that they are putting the passengers, flight crews, and flights themselves at risk? How vigilant can flight attendants be about safety when they have to spend the entire flight asking people to keep their voices down on their cell phones? People cry into their cell phones; they scream and argue and curse. They talk about medical conditions that could turn your stomcach. Is the plane really the appropriate environment for cell phone conversations? Would you want to be the passenger sitting next to someone blabbing away on their cell phone?

Have we, as a nation, not learned our lesson from 9/11? Besides the fact that cell phone use would be inappropriate and cause people to argue, how could we not be sure that terrorists were not using their cell phones to convey communication that could jeopardize the flight? The answer is that we can't be sure. So why take the chance? People lived for centuries and millenia without using a cell phone - and they survived! Surely a person can take a flight to Kansas City or London and be able to endure a few hours incommunicado. Let's not make it any easier to create incidents of terrorism or air rage than it already is.

Thank you for reading this.

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